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ABSTRACT

This brief pamphlet provides an overview of the need for national educational objectives and describes how Goals 2000 will combat problems in education through locally based school-reform and improvement efforts. Goals 2000 is intended to help develop and implement higher academic standards; give schools and communities the tools and flexibility to meet those standards; create educational partnerships; encourage parent involvement; strengthen and improve teacher training; improve the assessment of student performance; and provide seed capital to schools, districts, and states. The pamphlet highlights implications of Goals 2000 for various stakeholders--students, parents, teachers, educators, state leaders, business, and labor. A U.S. Department of Education toll-free telephone number for more information in included. (LMI)

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NOW THERE'S A WAY TO HELP
CHILDREN LEARN MORE THAN EVER BEFORE...

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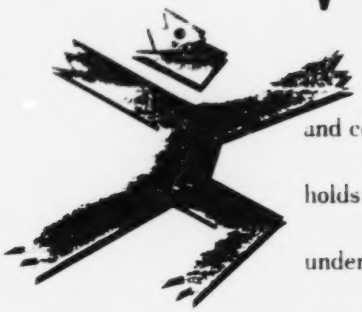
INTRODUCING GOALS 2000: A WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION FOR EVERY CHILD



Welcome to the new world of education—welcome to GOALS 2000! GOALS 2000 is the landmark school reform effort that delivers on the American people's call for dynamic change in our education system. For students...teachers...parents...education and community leaders...business and labor...and every citizen, GOALS 2000 holds the promise of a brighter future. GOALS 2000 is based upon an understanding of why our education system isn't working as well as it should. It builds upon what we have learned in recent years about what needs to be changed. And it gives us a real plan for making big improvements.

THE EDUCATION CRISIS— IT THREATENS ALL OF US

While many of our schools are doing a good job, too many others aren't preparing our children for the challenges of tomorrow. The National Education Goals Panel recently declared that most American students are now leaving school "without having gained the tools and skills they need to survive and prosper." In math, science, reading, and other basics of knowledge, many of our children simply aren't learning as much as they need to know to succeed. And that threatens the future prosperity of all of us.

MPROVING EDUCATION—
'VE ALL HAVE A STAKE IN IT

Learning is always right for its own sake. But in today's world, there are practical reasons to encourage every American to learn more.

We live in a world where what you earn depends upon what you learn. To get and hold the jobs of tomorrow, our children will have to have a very high level of skills and knowledge. A good education has become an essential "passport" to economic survival for our children. It's critical for America, too, for in the 21st century, the countries that are the best educated and smartest will lead the world.

Good education is also the key to helping our children learn to exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship in a democracy. That means obeying the law and learning to work with others to build a better America for all.

NE KNOW WHAT'S BROKEN—
NOW LET'S FIX IT!

American education is in trouble because standards in our schools are too low—children aren't challenged to work hard and fulfill their potential. The curriculum is often watered down. Teachers sometimes don't have the right training. Too many students don't have access to the instructional materials or computers they need. Parents aren't as involved in their children's education as they should be. Communities don't provide enough support. And schools frequently aren't held accountable for results.

GOALS 2000 is designed to help attack all of these problems through locally based school reform and improvement efforts. This approach has already worked in schools and communities to dramatically improve learning. It can work in your community...in your school.

GOALS
2000

GOALS 2000: REINVENTING EDUCATION
IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD AND TOWN

GOALS 2000 will:

* Help develop and implement—for the first time in our nation's history—high, "world-class" academic standards in science, math, history, English, geography, foreign languages, and the arts. These high standards will help every child to aim higher and learn more.
* Give schools and communities the tools and flexibility they need to get the job done and hold them accountable for results.
* Create partnerships among educators, parents, business people, workers, all citizens, and every level of government to support local schools and communities in their efforts to provide every child with a world-class education.
* Encourage parents and all family members to become more involved in children's education, and provide parents with better ways of measuring their children's progress and the quality of their schools.
* Strengthen and improve teacher training, textbooks, instructional materials, technologies, and overall school services so that teachers and students will have the tools they need to improve teaching and learning in every classroom.
* Produce better ways of testing and assessing student performance to make sure shortcomings are addressed and all children are learning what they need to know to succeed.
* Develop rigorous occupational skill standards that will define the knowledge and skills needed for the complex, high-wage jobs of tomorrow and develop a system of skill certification that will help students get good jobs after graduation.
* Provide seed capital to help schools, school districts, and states develop reform and improvement plans.

GOALS 2000:

WHAT IT MEANS FOR YOU

For children...a world-class education that will help them meet the challenges of the 21st century and lead happier, more productive lives.

For parents...greater involvement in their children's education and clear knowledge of what high, world-class academic and occupational skill standards are.

For teachers...more opportunities for professional development, better instructional materials and technologies, and freedom from cumbersome rules and regulations.

For principals, superintendents, and local and state leaders...assistance and partnerships in the effort to improve schools, including "venture capital" to help them develop comprehensive reform plans, and less federal red tape.

For business and labor...a highly skilled workforce, a system for finding qualified employees, and a way to get involved in the effort to improve local schools.

For all Americans...a better education system that will help our economy grow, protect and create jobs, and keep us internationally competitive.

BE PART OF A WORLD-CLASS TEAM—

THE GOALS 2000 TEAM!

GOALS 2000 can provide support for school reform efforts in your neighborhood, community, or state. To find out how you can be part of this nationwide partnership, or for more information, call the U.S. Department of Education at **1-800-USA-LEARN.**

AND A WAY TO GIVE EVERY AMERICAN A BRIGHTER FUTURE.

A world-class education for every child

U.S. Department of Education
1-800-USA-LEARN

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